



December 20, 2017

Trevor Joseph, SGM Section Chief
California Department of Water Resources
901 P Street
P. O. Box 942836
Sacramento, CA 94236

Re: Initial Notification of Plan Development

Dear Mr. Joseph,

This is the initial notification that the Upper Ventura River Groundwater Agency is beginning development of a Groundwater Sustainability Plan as required by Section 353.6(a) of the GSP regulations and SGMA Section 10727.8.

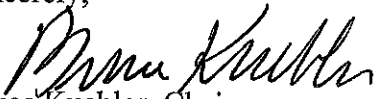
The Agency's process for developing the Plan is described in the Grant Proposal for Upper Ventura River Groundwater Sustainability Agency and Plan, submitted for the Proposition 1 Sustainable Groundwater Planning Grant Program. In summary, the Agency will conduct studies to fill gaps in data and analysis during 2018 and 2019. During that period, work will begin on GSP chapter titled, 'Plan Area and Basin Setting'. As analyses are completed, chapters on Sustainable Management Criteria, Projects and Management Actions, and Plan Implementation will be prepared. Approval of chapters is scheduled for 2020 and early 2021 with Plan adoption in late 2021.

Stakeholder engagement is an important part of Plan development. One Director of the seven-member Board represents agricultural interests and one represents environmental interests. Each of those Directors communicates regularly with their interested parties to inform them of activities and receive ideas and comments. People can participate in Plan development by attending monthly afternoon meetings of the Agency's board, by going to occasional community outreach evening meetings, by signing up to be on the Interested Parties list to receive emails on Plan activities and status, by going to the Agency's website to learn about activities, topics, and Plan drafts that may be of interest, and by contacting Board members by phone or email. Board meetings with agenda packets are posted on the Agency's website. Each GSP chapter will be subject of a public meeting to receive comments prior to approval.

The Agency's Stakeholder Outreach Ad Hoc Committee interviewed a variety of people to determine how they would like to participate in GSP development and a Stakeholder Engagement Plan will be prepared. Additional opportunities for interested parties to participate, such as an advisory council, will evolve and be included as Plan development progresses.

Contacting the Agency can occur in several ways. Messages can be left on the Agency's website, uvrgroundwater.org; the Agency's Executive Director, Cece Vandermeer, can be contacted by phone at (805) 640-1247 or email at uvrgal@gmail.com; Board Chair Bruce Kuebler can be contacted by phone at (805) 649-3050; he and other Board members can be reached using contact information on the Agency's website; or written letters can be sent to UVRGA at P. O. Box 1779, Ojai, CA 93024.

Sincerely,



Bruce Kuebler, Chair
Upper Ventura River Water Agency

Cc: Ventura County Board of Supervisors
City of San Buenaventura City Council
Interested Parties List
Ventura River Watershed Council
City of Ojai City Council